## **REMARKS**

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

By this Amendment, Claims 25-26, 29-30, 33 and 36-37 are amended; Claims 1-24 and 33 are canceled; and no claims are added herewith. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 29 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as indefinite; Claims 25-28, 32, 36 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,354,059 to <u>Yoshie</u>; Claims 25-28, 31, 36 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. 2003/0057641 to <u>Yamada</u>; Claims 25-28, 31, 32, 36 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over 2003/0094745 to <u>Kitahara</u> in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,354,059 to <u>Yoshie</u>; and Claims 29, 30 and 33-35 were indicated as including allowable subject matter.

With respect to the rejection of Claims 29 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Claims 29 and 30 are amended by the present amendment. Withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 29 and 30 is respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner indicating allowable subject matter. Accordingly, the independent claims are amended to include the allowable features recited in Claim 33. Withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103 is respectfully requested.

Consequently, for the reasons discussed in detail above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Application No. 10/666,240 Reply to Office Action of November 21, 2006

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,

MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Customer Number} \\ 22850 \end{array}$ 

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 03/06) James J. Kulbaski Attorney of Record

Registration No. 34,648

Kevin M. McKinley Registration No. 43,794

JJK:KMM\la

I:\ATTY\KMM\PROSECUTION WORK\243044\243044US-AM DUE 2-21-07.DOC